## **Approved on 02.14.2012**

## Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) Meeting January 10th, 2012 Westfield Mall, Wheaton, MD 20902

**Members Present:** Jeannette Feldner (chair), Marian Fryer, William Moore, Janet Yu,

Jim Onder (5:30), Devala Janardan, Henriot St. Gerard (5:20)

**Members Absent:** Matt Barry, Linda Amendt, Ken Nelson

**Staff Present:** Ana Lopez van Balen, Director, Mid-County Regional Center

**Guests:** Robert Abrams, Wheaton resident

Esther French, Patch

Adam Fogel from Councilmember Navarro's office

Call to order: Chair, Jeannette Feldner, 5:15pm

**Motions:** Minutes were approved

**Police report:** None

Mid-county Director's Report/Marketing Report: Report focused on the following topics.

- Ana Mendez starting classes this month (Jan), campus director has indicated an interest to participate in WUDAC activities, particularly business development subcommittee
- Fostering relationship with Wheaton Patch (Esther French commented about building up Wheaton pride through community blog)
- Working on new logo hopefully by April
- Ongoing efforts to decrease aggressive towing
- New class offering Connecting with Community Class class for advanced English speakers (leadership opportunities)
- Upcoming Mid-County Budget workshop

## **Committee reports:**

Business Development: Having next meeting Feb 1. Inviting other community groups and individuals to see what direction this subcommittee should take to help small business.

Communications: Long range vision – to communicate with interest groups, follow direction from other established communications plans, deal with internal as well as

external communications. Immediate goals include an April 12 online newsletter (just before Taste of Wheaton). Hopefully release additional newsletters on a quarterly basis. Bill requests other subcommittees to forward information.

Community Building – continuing to develop a list of civic and neighborhood associations by zipcode to communicate with the community, working on a letter of introduction.

Advocacy: Adam Fogel, Chief of staff for Nancy Navarro, provided background and helpful information on Community Evaluation and Review Board (CERB). There is still time because CERB members have not been announced yet. Applications were submitted late 2011. CERB will be required to issue a 6 month preliminary report and 12 month final report. WUDAC will, among other things, be required to produce list of accomplishments (past 2 years). Janet mentioned that panhandling may be an upcoming issue. Devala requested that we have new training on open meetings/ethics, as well as a deeper discussion about the role of subcommittees.

Budget: None

**Redevelopment report:** Ana mentioned that they are creating a term-sheet.

**Westfield report: None** 

**Community Concerns:** Robert Abrams is a resident who is concerned about the trash pileup on his lawn. He lives near the 7/11 on Amherst and believes the trash is coming from either there or from the adjacent bus stand. His pleads to management have brought little relief. Marian also mentioned the free produce program at a nearby church.

**New Business:** none

Meeting Adjourned: 6:20pm.